

## REMARKS

The Official Action of February 8, 2008 has been carefully considered. The amendments and remarks herein are considered to be responsive thereto. The claims remaining in the case are 1 through 4, 6, 7, 10 through 13 and 16 through 19. Claims 5, 8, 9, 14 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice to re-file.

Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 101 because the use claims do not set forth the steps involved in the process. The claims have been amended to recite the steps involved in the process. Claims 12-15 are further rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 because the claims lack support for treating glaucoma, diabetes, Alzheimer's, depression, etc. By this amendment claims 14 and 15 directed to use of the compounds to treat diabetes, Alzheimer's, depression, etc., have been canceled. As to the use of the compounds for treating glaucoma it is well known that glaucoma is one of the manifestations of elevated intraocular pressure. It is also known that a patient can be in the early stages of glaucoma. Maxi-K Channel blockers are also known to be effective in treating a number of ocular diseases, including glaucoma, macular edema, macular degeneration, etc. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would expect that the compounds of the claimed invention would be effective at treating, for example, glaucoma.

In light of the amendments and remarks herein Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number below if this would expedite the allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Sylvia A. Ayler

Reg. No. 36,436

Attorney for Applicant(s)

MERCK & CO., INC.

P.O. Box 2000

Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907

(732) 594-4909

Date: February 28, 2008